



UTILITY PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Appl. No.	:	10/716,252	Confirmation No. 6496
Applicant	:	Robert R. Rice	
Filed	:	11/17/2003	
TC/A.U.	:	2877	
Examiner	:	Kara E. Geisel	
Docket No.	:	024.0027	
Customer No.	:	29,906	

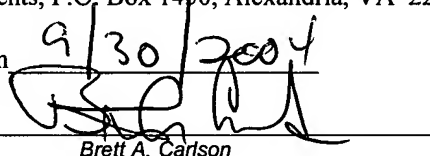
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9/30/2004

by Signature


Brett A. Carlson

RESPONSE AND AMENDMENT FILED UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.111

Commissioner For Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Commissioner:

In response to the Office Action of August 24, 2004, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

Amendments to the Specification begin on page 3 of this paper.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 4 of this paper.

Amendments to the Drawings begin on page 8 of this paper and include an attached additional sheet.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 9 of this paper.

An **Appendix** of replacement sheets containing an additional drawing figure is attached following page 10 of this paper.